



Buckland Ripers

Nestling quietly just off the road that runs from the outskirts of the parish of Broadwey and the connecting road to Portesham, lies the tiny village of Buckland Ripers. Seemingly tucked away in the middle of nowhere, it is one of Dorset's hidden treasures.



Church of St. Nicholas, Buckland Ripers

Buckland Ripers is a parish with its own small church dedicated to St Nicholas. Situated almost at the end of the lane, in a delightful and tranquil setting, it is a delight to come across.

The church porch bears the date of 1655 and the initials J.F. This was the date of its rebuilding after it was damaged by fire that year. J.F. were the initials of John Frampton, but it was recorded on a gravestone "James Frampton Esq. who began building of this church, but died before it was finished, was buried July 13, 1655".

Some parts of the church date from the 14th century however.

Some restoration took place during the 19th century and while not being particularly sympathetic to its original era, it nevertheless does not detract from its special kind of beauty.

Lying adjacent to the church is the old Manor House. Hiding at the end of a small driveway lined with trees and shrubs, it is not so easy to see from the front and is best viewed from the church.

The Manor House too was damaged during the fire of 1655 and was then in

the possession of the Frampton family. The Manor House, like the church, was subsequently rebuilt. Both the south and east wings were affected. The house was extended during Victorian times, but still retains much of its original charm.

The Framptons moved to Rempston, Corfe Castle after the fire.



The Manor House, Buckland Ripers

Buckland Ripers is recorded in the Domesday Book as being in the possession of the wife of Hugh FitzGrip, taxed for four hides and having land for four ploughs. Also recorded is a mill. Later the manor came into the possession of the De Ripariis or Rivers family and the second part of the village's name is said to be derived from that.

The manor thereafter was divided between several families. Part of it was sold about 1539^{*} to Walter Frampton of Melcombe for 40 marks of silver. The Framptons are mentioned again as possessing parts of the manor in 1427 with Margaret Frampton, 1464 Robert Frampton and in 1558 John Frampton "held it as before" along with the manor of Upwey. His heir was his son Robert Frampton and in 1596 he holds it "as before". At some time John Frampton of Moreton gave it to his fifth son James whose farm was sequestered in 1645. There being no successive male heirs of the Moreton branch, those of Buckland Ripers succeeded to that estate and in 1704 they sold it to Joseph Damer of Dorchester. He in turn gave it to his son John Damer of Winterborne Came. The manor of Buckland Ripers was later sold to the Churchill family. *check date; it is chronologically out-of-order which is how the rest of the paragraph is constructed.

Historical Parish Information

Parish Registers begin:	1695
Hundred or Liberty:	Culliford Tree
Poor Law Union & Registration District:	Weymouth
Somerset & Dorset FHS Census Volumes	1841 - Vol.8 1851 - Vol.2 1891 - Vol.10
Online Parish Clerk Project (external link):	Buckland Ripers OPC

[Smuggling](#) Melcombe = what? [Melcombe Regis](#) - a separate parish on the north side of Weymouth Bay, adjacent to Weymouth, with the parish Church of Saint John.

[Shipwrecks](#) [Melcombe Horsey](#) - a former village, civil and ecclesiastical parish 10 miles NE of Dorchester, sometimes named Higher Melcombe. The parish Church of Saint Andrews is in the ruins of the abandoned village; the church address is Bingham's Melcombe, the name of a neighboring village.